The Bar of England and Wales is divided into six regions, commonly known as “Circuits”. One of which is the Midland Circuit. Amongst other things, the Circuits provide support and training for barristers practising within the area. We are committed to increasing access to the Bar to ensure we get the most talented people from diverse backgrounds.

The Midland Circuit recognises that financial pressures can restrict deserving candidates from undertaking the BPC, limited loans are available, and the courses are expensive. As such, the Midland Circuit is offering a scholarship to the value of £17,500 for a deserving candidate who undertakes the BPC at a Midland Provider, namely BPP Birmingham, The College of Law Birmingham, or Nottingham Law School. The course can be completed full or part time.

Successful candidates will be determined on merit and financial need. Candidates should provide any relevant details regarding personal background; their connection to the Midlands; and reasons why they wish to be a barrister in the Midlands. This will be considered alongside the answers to the competency questions. The form can be downloaded from the Midland Circuit website (<https://www.midlandcircuit.co.uk/downloads>).

This programme is for those studying law, or undertaking the GDL, and wishing to undertake the BPTC. The university currently attended need not be in the Midlands, but a strong link to the Midlands is required and must be evidenced within the application form. We particularly welcome applications from black and minority ethnic candidates as they are underrepresented at the Bar.

All completed application forms should be emailed to circuit.administrator@midlandcircuit.co.uk

The closing date is Tuesday **22nd April 2025** and successful candidates will be notified **by Monday 11th May 2025.**

|  |
| --- |
| **Personal Information** |
| Application ID Number: (internal use only) |  |
| Full Name: |  |
| Address: |  |
| Post Code: |  |
| Telephone Number: |  |
| Mobile Number: |  |
| Email Address: |  |
| Age: |  |
| Date of Birth: |  |
|  |
| Previous Mini Pupillage Applications and details of any mini pupillages undertaken: |  |
| Further Details including how the mini pupillage was obtained: |  |
|  |
| Criminal Convictions:  |  |
| Further Details: |  |
|  |
| Bankruptcy:  |  |
| Further Details: |  |
|  |
| Professional Misconduct:  |  |
| Further Details: |  |
|  |
| Pending Legal Proceedings:  |  |
| Further Details: |  |
|  |
| Eligibility to study in the UK: |  |
| Further Details:  |  |
|  |  |
| **Desired Locations** |
| Desired BPTC courseBirmingham or Nottingham |  |
| **Education & Qualifications** |
| Please list the type of school you attended but do not name the school. If you received a scholarship or any funding to attend this school please state the nature of the assistance you received. Please list university attended – do not list your grades  |  |
| Memberships of Professional bodies etc: |  |
| **Employment & Career History** |
| Please list employment history including mini-pupillages and any other work experience.  |  |
| **Why do you wish to undertake the BPCT in the Midlands** |
| 1. Please detail why you wish to undertake the BPTC in the Midlands.
 |  |
| 1. What are your links to the Midland Circuit?
 |  |
| 1. Do you have an offer of Pupillage? If so please give details of where and any award attached to it.
 |  |
| **Specific Questions – 250 words max per question** |
| 1. Describe a situation where someone disagreed with you and you had to persuade them of your point of view
 |  |
| 1. What is your proudest achievement to date and why?
 |  |
|  |  |
| 1. Give an example of you working well with others.
 |  |
| 1. Give an example of public speaking you have undertaken
 |  |
| 1. Give an example of when you faced failure, and you learnt from this?
 |  |
| **Financial information** |
| How have you funded your degree? |  |
| Have you received any other awards of scholarships? Please give details of provider and amount |  |
| What is your current level of student debt? |  |
| If you do not receive this award how do you intend to fund the BPTC? |  |
| Please detail any financial support you receive, from parents, extended family, or other |  |
| Do you currently have any assets, such as a house or bank balance in excess of £1000? |  |
| Do you have any dependents? |  |
| Are you in receipt of any state benefits? |  |
| Has any previous generation of your family attended university?  |  |
| Please detail any other information you feel is relevant |  |

I declare that the information contained in this Application Form is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I understand that the Award is contingent upon being offered a place at one of the named providers and will only be paid upon commencement of said course.

I understand that the details on this form will be used only for the purposes of considering this application and will not be passed on to any third part (save as required by law) except with the consent of the Applicant.

I agree to the Midland Circuit holding a copy of this application for such period as is advised by the accountants to the Midland Circuit and/or as required by law

Signed:

Name:

Date:

**Frequently Asked Questions**

* Is it a requirement of the scholarship that I study in Birmingham, or can this be London or even Manchester?*You can study anywhere, but you must be able to reflect a strong connection to the Midlands.*
* Can I request an extension on the deadline? *No extension will be granted under any circumstances.*
* Does the scholarship include students who are currently on the bar course part time going into second year?*You must be applying for your first year in order to be eligible.*
* I enrolled on the LLM BTC last year. The conversion part has been completed and BTC will start in September which is combined with LLM. Can I still apply for the scholarship*?  You must be applying afresh for the first year of your course.*
* Can a student apply even though they are white but come from a disadvantaged background?*Yes, any student can apply for the Scholarship Scheme and will be scored on the same merit sheet as all applicants.*
* *Does it include students who are currently on the bar course part time going into second year? We encourage a full-time course be undertaken but will take into consideration the need for some applicants to attend a part time course, we will however only take applications from those applying for the start of their course.*
* I hold a place to study at the Inns of Court College of Advocacy, and was wondering whether I could still apply for the scholarship. I will 100% not be moving to London on competition of the in-person Part 2 of the course.*You can apply and will need to show a strong connection to the Midlands.*
* Is this available for international students?*Yes, international students can apply, but you must demonstrate a strong connection to the Midlands.*
* I wondered whether you could tell me if there is a particular year of study that a student can apply for the scholarship?*Does it need to be their final year of undergraduate study? Application will only be considered from those who are yet to start their first year.*